

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health 1895.

To the
Chairman & members of the Street Urban District Council.

Gentlemen

I have the honour of submitting my report
for the year ending Dec: 31st 1895.

Area of Parish of Street. 2918 acres.

Population. Census 1891. 3517

Estimated to middle of 1895. 3943.

Geology. Lower lias, consisting of alternating
beds of limestones, clays & marls.

Occupation. Principally shoemaking.

Agricultural. Limestone quarries in district.

Birthrate 120 births (62 males 58 females) have been
registered during the year giving a birthrate of 30.4
per 1000 living.

Deathrate. 55 deaths (29 males 26 females) registered
giving a deathrate of 13.9 per 1000 living.

Zymotic Deathrate.

5 deaths from zymotic disease have occurred
viz 3 from Whooping Cough - 2 from Diphtheria, giving
a zymotic rate of 1.2 per 1000 living.

Infant Mortality.

20 deaths under 1 year have been registered
giving an Infant Mortality of 166.6 per 1000 births

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In year ending Dec: 31st 1894.

Births 119 = Birthrate 30.9 per 1000 living
Deaths 38 = Deathrate 9.8 "
Zymotic Deaths 2 = Zymotic Rate 0.5 "
15 Deaths under 1 year = Infant Mortality 126.05 per 1000 births.

Ages Table of Deaths.

Under 1 year	There were	20	Deaths
1 & under 5	"	2	"
5 " 15	"	2	"
15 " 25	"	5	"
25 " 65	"	10	"
65 & upwards	"	16	"

The Causes of Death were as follows:.

Diphtheria 1 under 1 over the age of 5 years

Whooping Cough 3 under the age of 5 years

Phthisis 7 over "

Bronchitis

Pneumonia } 6 under 2 over the age of 5 years.

Pleurisy

Heart Disease 8 over the age of 5 years

All other Causes. 12 under 15 over the age of 5 years.

Water Supply.

During the greater part of the year there has been plenty of water in the wells. The supply from "Pohy Hole" has been constant many from the upper & lower parts of the village again procuring good drinking water from this source.

I have examined samples of water from various parts of the village two of which I considered unfit for domestic use. In both cases the wells had become fouled through the entrance of sewage matter. The defects have since been remedied.

Sewage & Drainage.

The sewers are periodically flushed under the direction of the Inspector of Nuisances. The system of disposal of sewage matter by irrigation continues to work satisfactorily.

A new sewer has been laid in the Hilprie RD connecting the houses where the garden accommodation was small & the dry earth system previously in use. Stone Cottages also have been connected with the main sewer. In the High St, from the small Terrace to the top of Cranhill RD the sewer has been relaid larger pipes being necessary.

I have visited various parts of the district during the year & directed your attention to various minor nuisances which required attention.

The keeping of crime within the limit allowed by the Council & the accumulation of dung has been drawn to your notice & the abatement of these nuisances directed.

The Curving in of the tank in front of the Factory has been completed & is a marked improvement to that part of the High St. The projected curving of the open watercourse higher up will complete a much needed scheme.

Prevalence of Disease.

The deathrate is higher than that of the previous year when it was exceptionally low. A large number of the aged have died during the year no less than 13 being 72 years of age & upwards - 7 out of that 13 being over 80 & one having attained 91 years.

The infant mortality has increased - 20 deaths being registered against 15 in 1894.

The deaths from Phthisis are also in excess of last year 7 being registered against 5 in 1894.

Influenza mostly mild in type - chest & throat affections prevailed during the months of Jan: Feb: March - April - October - November & December.

An epidemic of whooping-cough occurred during the months of April - May & June, 3 deaths, infants being registered as due to this disease. In Feb: a case of measles was reported & during the months of Sept: Oct: & Nov: several cases of scarlatina occurred. Isolation & disinfection as far as practicable were effected & fortunately neither of the diseases spread to any extent.

Three cases of Diphtheria in one family occurred during the latter part of August & the beginning of Sept: two of which - mother & daughter terminated fatally.

I visited the premises along with the Inspector of nuisances enquiring into the drainage, water supply &c &c - the former of which had only recently been thoroughly overhauled - the latter an examination to be fairly satisfactory. I was led to conclude that the disease was contracted in the first instance out of the village. I advised the Council to direct the destruction by fire of all the bedding, clothing &c used by the deceased. This procedure was adopted & fortunately no further spread of the disease occurred. The premises were thoroughly disinfected & put into an efficient sanitary state.

A mild case of erysipelas came under my notice in November.

Scavenging.

Inspection is exercised over the ash & refuse heaps & their early removal directed.

Notification Act.

Recommended - but not in force.

Infectious Diseases Hospital

We have no provision for the removal of infectious cases.

Disinfection means.

We have no apparatus for disinfection. If the Council could co-operate with some neighbouring authority in the purchase of

I visited the premises along with the Inspector
of businesses, supervising into the business, and
saw the premises of which had only recently
been thoroughly cleaned. The latter was
found to be in good order. I was
convinced that the business was conducted in
the first-class manner out of the whole.
I advised the Council to direct the
the first of all the buildings along the road to be
cleaned. This business was reported to
be in the first class. The business was
overseen. The business was
thoroughly cleaned and put into an efficient
state.

I would like to see the business
in the first class.

Sanitary
Inspection is essential in the first class
sanitary and the first class.

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a disinfecting apparatus its ultimate use in preventing the spread of infectious diseases would soon be appreciated.

Dairies Cuckoo & Live Poultry.

Visited & inspected periodically with the Inspector of Nuisances.

Slaughter Houses. Bakehouses. Common Lying Houses.

The slaughter houses are visited quarterly with the Inspector & regularly lime-washed.

Bakehouses opened since 1875 also visited periodically & lime-washed.

No common Lying House in the Village.

Housing of Working Classes

In September a case of overcrowding in the house & the occupation of unsuitable premises was drawn to your notice & the abatement of this nuisance directed by the Council.

House to house inspection regularly practised

Bye Laws.

A full code in force.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

Jorge W. Eglington

P. R. C. P. D. &

Annual Report of the
Medical Officer of Health.

To the
Street (Sanitary) Urban District Council

Geo. W. Glinister L.R.C.P.D.: H.
San. O. H.

Street District Council.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT.

The MEDICAL OFFICER (Dr. G. W. Eglinton) produced his annual report as follows:—Area of parish, 2,918 acres; population, census 1891, 3,577; estimated to middle of 1896, 4,042. Birthrate—106 births registered (46 males and 60 females), giving a birthrate of 26·2 per 1,000 living. Deathrate—54 deaths (28 males and 26 females), giving a deathrate of 13·3 per 1,000 living. Zymotic rate—4 deaths from zymotic disease, viz., measles, giving a zymotic rate of 0·9 per 1,000 living. Infant mortality—Per 1,000 births 150·9. Sixteen deaths under one year have been registered. The birthrate for 1895 was 120 births, 30·4 per 1,000 living; deathrate, 55 deaths, 13·9 per 1,000 living; zymotic rate, 5 deaths, 1·2 per 1,000 living; infant mortality, per 1,000 births, 166·6 (20 deaths under 1 year). Water supply.—During the summer months owing to the prolonged dry weather, the water in many of the wells entirely gave out. The supply from the Polly Hole source, however, again remained constant, and was utilised by very many, not only in the village, but also in the surrounding district. I have examined several samples of water, submitted to me by the Inspector, two of which I considered unfit for potable purposes. In two instances wells became contaminated by the entrance of sewage matter, one in the Vestry-road, due to a leakage in the house drain, the other in Orchard-road, due to the blocking of the sewer at the back of the house. In each case the wells have been pumped out and thoroughly cleansed, and the drains put in a good state of repair. Sewage, drainage and excrement disposal.—The disposal of sewage by means of irrigation continues to work satisfactorily. The sewers are periodically flushed under the direction of the Inspector of Nuisances. A new sewer has been laid from Parkway to Leigh-road, and I note with satisfaction the completion of this undertaking. To a number of houses in the district the pail system is in force, the excrement being deposited on the land. Prevalence of Disease.—During the months of January, February, April, May, October, November and December, chest and throat affections prevailed extensively. Cases of influenza of a mild type have occurred during the early and latter months of the year. Some cases of whooping cough occurred in the month of February, and in August, September, October and November a severe epidemic of measles prevailed; four deaths from this complaint. The only deaths due to zymotic disease was registered. The cases of scarlet fever occurred during the latter months of the year. Prompt isolation was effected and all made a satisfactory recovery. In June some few cases of mumps occurred; in July, diarrhoea amongst young children was present, and in August and September many cases of ulcerated sore throat came under my notice. Two cases of erysipelas came to my knowledge during the year, one of which terminated fatally; 54 deaths have been registered as against 55 of the previous year. The deaths from phthisis are the same in number, viz., 7. The infant mortality is lower than last year, 16 deaths under one year being registered, as against 20 in 1895. The causes of death were as follows:—Erysipelas, 1; measles, 4; phthisis, 7; bronchitis, pneumonia and pleurisy, 10; heart disease, 7; all other causes, 30. Ages table of deaths:—

Under 1 year	there were	16	deaths
1 and under 5	„ „	18	„
5	„ 15	„	was 1 death
15	„ 25	„	were 4 deaths
25	„ 65	„	4 „
65 and upwards	„ „	10	„

Infectious Diseases Hospital.—Arrangements have been entered into with the Glastonbury Sanitary Authority for the joint lease of an infectious hospital about to be erected on a suitable site midway between the two districts. Disinfection.—We have no apparatus for disinfection, which is at present carried out by means of sulphur fumigation.

